

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting of Tuesday, 01 November 2011
Mansfield Community Center (MCC) Conference Room

Approved Minutes

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:10p by Kim Bova. *Members present:* Kim Bova, Blanche Serban, Joe Tomanelli, David Vaughan. *Members absent:* Tom Bruhn, Scott Lehmann. *Others present:* Matt Hart (town manager), Sarah Anderson (Downtown Storrs/MCC Playground Committee) and Bette Stern (MCC staff).

2. The draft **minutes** of the 10 October 2011 meeting were approved.

3. **Computer Monitors for art display.** Matt Hart informed the committee that Mansfield Board of Education purchased 6 computer monitors to display student art. The units are intended to function as big digital picture frames for artwork created by students grades k-8, possibly high school. Students' art teachers will select the art. The data will be stored on flash-drives. Possible locations of the monitors are the elementary schools, the middle school, the town hall, the public library, and the senior center. The committee approved the concept of digital art shows for students' art, contingent upon addressing the following issues: establishing the person in charge of uploading/monitoring the display at each location, clarifying what other content can be displayed on the monitors (town information, local TV channel, etc.), deputizing the teachers to select the art. The town manager indicated that he would come back to explain how these issues were addressed.

4. **Downtown Storrs/MCC Community Playground.** Sara Anderson, the general coordinator of the project, indicated that the playground would be built on the MCC ground and/or land purchased from UConn. The playground will be planned, designed, and built by adults and children from the community. In addition, a playground design firm, Leathers & Associates, was contacted to coordinate the design and the building of the playground. The funds for the project will come from community businesses, families, and individuals. Sara expressed interest in having local artists involved in designing and completing the project. David gave Sara the contact information for Peggy Church, who manages the distribution of information via email for a large local network of artists. Blanche distributed Artists' Open Studio brochures for the 2011 tour. Sara plans to visit local artists during the AOS tour to discuss the options. She will also send an email to the artist community through Peggy Church. The Playground Committee is also looking for volunteers to fill the positions of Design/Special Feature Coordinator, and Tools and Fundraising Coordinator. The Playground Committee has a page on Facebook, and is looking for a local web designer to develop a website that can be linked to the town page. The Playground Committee can be contacted by email (Sara Anderson, sdeputya@gmail.com), mail (4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268), and phone (860 429-3338).

5. The new **correspondence** included a copy of the article "Ta Tas' Exhibit Not Allowed In Manchester Town Hall," published in Hartford Courant, 10/10/11.

6. **Art and Music Space in Downtown Storrs.** David learned that the town green would not include any permanent structure dedicated to art and music space. Kim will invite Cynthia van Zelm, the executive director of Mansfield Downtown Partnership, to discuss options regarding art and music space.

7. David reported that no progress was made in finding an **outdoor performance space**. David met with the manager from the Greek Church and visited the Greek theatre under construction on Dog Lane. The theater might be suitable and available for outdoor performances, for cultural and educational purposes only. David will invite the church manager to come to the AAC meeting in January to brainstorm ways for community involvement.

8. **Summer band proposal.** Joe and David are interested to be involved in running the program. Bette gave an account of the local tradition of summer band programs.

9. **MCC exhibits.**

- a. Blanche will contact Jan Geoghegan to confirm the January exhibition date.
- b. There is no application to exhibit from **Suzy Staubach**, even though Tom contacted her. Kim will e-mail Tom to find out what is going on.
- c. Qui Lu was approved to proceed with the students' art exhibit at the public library.
Note: While the form for exhibition application available at MCC is specific for this location, the AAC policy refers to all the public spaces.

Exhibit Period	Entry cases		Sitting room		Hallway	
	Double-sided	Shelves	Upper (5)	Lower (3)	Long (5)	Short (2)
01 Oct – 14 Oct		<i>Festival art</i>	<i>Murray Wachman</i> (acrylics)			
15 Oct – 14 Jan	<i>Suzy Staubach??</i> (ceramics)					
15 Jan – 14 Apr	<i>Kenneth Dubay</i> (wooden bowls)		<i>Jan Geoghegan</i> (encaustic & mixed media)			
15 Apr – 31 May	<i>Mansfield School Art?</i>					
01 Jun – 17 Aug						
27 Aug – 14 Oct						
15 Oct – 14 Jan					<i>Jim Gabianelli</i> (machine art)	

10. Adjourned at 8:18p. Next meeting: 7:00p, Tuesday, 01December 2011.

Blanche Serban, Secretary, 01 November 2011.